International Seabed Authority ISBA/21/A/3

Assembly

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Election to fill a vacancy on the Finance Committee in accordance with section 9 of the annex to the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The Assembly is invited to note that Vishnu Dutt Sharma (India) has resigned from the Finance Committee effective 6 February 2015. He was elected by the Assembly at the nineteenth session of the International Seabed Authority as a member of the Committee to fill the vacancy left by Pradip Choudhary (India) until the end of the latter's term, on 31 December 2016.

2. Section 9, paragraph 5, of the annex to the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 provides that, in the event of the death, incapacity or resignation of a member of the Finance Committee prior to the expiration of the term of office, the Assembly shall elect for the remainder of the term a member from the same geographical region or group of States.

3. In accordance with section 9, paragraphs 1 and 3, of the annex to the Agreement, the Finance Committee shall be composed of 15 members with appropriate qualifications relevant to financial matters who shall be elected by the Assembly.

4. By a note verbale dated 21 April 2015, the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations in New York informed the Secretary-General of the Authority of the nomination of Madimi Koteswara Rao to fill the seat left vacant by Mr. Sharma.

5. The Assembly will note that, if elected, Mr. Rao will serve on the Finance Committee for the remainder of the term in question (until 31 December 2016). The curriculum vitae of Mr. Rao is provided in the annex to the present note.

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Annex

Curriculum vitae of Madimi Koteswara Rao (India)*

1. Academic qualifications: Bachelor of Commerce, Bachelor of Laws and Master of Laws (international and constitutional law).

2. Professional experience: Counsellor (Legal Adviser) at the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations in New York since July 2014.

Joined in April 1991 as Legal Officer at the Legal and Treaties Division of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, then as Senior Legal Officer (June 1994-May 1999; May 2003-May 2009)

First Secretary (Legal) at the Permanent Mission of India to the World Trade Organization, Geneva, between June 1999 and April 2003

Legal Adviser to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Seychelles, between June 2009 and July 2012, deputed by the Government of India under a technical cooperation programme

Senior Researcher (1982-1984); Assistant Professor (September 1984-April 1991) at the Indian Society of International Law, New Delhi, and Assistant Editor of the *Indian Journal of International Law* (April 1986 to April 1991)

3. Negotiating experience: investment treaties with Canada, the United States of America, Mexico, Sweden, South Africa, Oman, Egypt, Kuwait, Thailand, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Taiwan Province of China, Morocco, the Philippines, Finland, etc.

Free trade agreements with Mauritius; the Southern African Customs Union; Japan, Sri Lanka and the Republic of Korea; the Association of Southeast Asian Nations; the South Asian Free Trade Area; and Thailand; and preferential agreements with MERCOSUR, Chile, etc.

Chaired an informal group of legal experts of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in 2007; dealt with matters considered by the United Nations Compensation Commission; worked with the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and working groups on international contract practices, arbitration and electronic commerce of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law; and prepared dispute settlements, draft amendment proposals, rules, etc. of the World Trade Organization, and appeared before its dispute settlement panels and Appellate Body (on disputes related to bed linens, steel anti-dumping, etc.)

4. Research and publications:

(a) Treaty Law of India: Theory and Practice prepared and submitted to the Indian Council of Social Sciences Research, New Delhi, in March 1986;

(b) "Antarctic Treaty and Mineral Resources", in *Growing Focus on Antarctica*, R.C. Sharma (ed.) (New Delhi, Rajesh Publishers, 1986) pp. 257-265;

(c) "Legal Aspects of Kachchativu Problem" (an Island between India and

* Curricula vitae are issued without formal editing.

Sri Lanka in Indian Ocean), *Indian Journal of International Law*, vol. 27 (1) (1987), pp. 72-82;

(d) "Right of Self-Determination in the Post-Colonial Era: A Survey of Juristic Opinion and State Practice", *Indian Journal of International Law*, vol. 28 (1) (1988), pp. 58-71;

(e) India and the Legal Regime on Antarctica prepared and submitted to the Ministry of External Affairs of the Government of India, in March 1988;

(f) Co-author (with Professor S.K. Agrawala) of "Nationality and International Law in Indian Perspective", in *Nationality and International Law in Asian Perspective*, Ko Swan Sik (ed.) (Dodrecht, Martinus Nijhoff, 1990) pp. 65-123;

(g) International Liability for Injurious Consequences Arising out of Acts not Prohibited by International Law, prepared and submitted to the Ministry of External Affairs of the Government of India, in September 1989;

(h) "International Corporate Sector: The Move Towards Code of Conduct", *Company Law Journal*, vol. 1 (March 1988), p. 50;

(i) "International Corporate Sector: A Survey of Efforts to set Standards", *Company Law Journal*, vol. 1 (March 1988), p. 123;

(j) "International Corporate Sector: U.N. Code of Conduct I to IV", *Company Law Journal*, Vols. 1 and 2 (April, May, June and July 1988), pp. 181, 31, 85 and 131;

(k) "Terrorist Law Vs. Corporate Law", *Company Law Journal*, vol. 2 (July 1988), p. 123;

(l) Delivered guest lectures at the Indian Society of International Law, Foreign Service Institute of the Ministry of External Affairs, and at the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade;

(m) Prepared research notes on: the protection of emblems, logos and domain names in India; the expropriation of aliens' property; the functionality of immunities; transit rights; etc.;

(n) Attended a research programme on the rights and duties of riparian States of international rivers, conducted by The Hague Academy Centre for Studies and Research in International Law and International Relations at the Hague, the Netherlands, from 13 August to 7 September 1990.